

has a good substantial fence. During this year I have built and repaired about one mile of this fence; have finished the clearing of six acres of land, and have cut the timber off from seven and a half acres more. The entire amount of land tilled the past year has been about one hundred acres. This includes the six acres cleared last winter, and also some twelve acres sowed with timothy seed. The value of crops raised this year belonging to government is about four hundred dollars; value of work in fencing, about one hundred dollars; value of labor in clearing land, about one hundred and twenty-five dollars. Total value of work and crops, about six hundred and twenty-five dollars. I have tried to instruct the Indians in farming, and think with the upper band I have been quite successful, having been greatly assisted by the example of John Highton, the chief. The government buildings are a good story and a half farm-house, a large well-finished frame barn, a log barn occupied by Indian Jim as a grain house, a log house used as carpenter shop, cattle sheds, all in good order.

The school building remains in the same unfinished condition as when I found it. It is suffering from the effect of the weather, and ought to be either finished or taken to pieces to save the lumber.

I am constantly visited by the Indians of the Satsop, Webinoche, and other tribes, when they need aid of any kind, but have referred all such to the superintendent, as I have thought it my duty to confine myself to the Indians on the reservation.

I have issued the goods supplied by yourself and the late superintendent, either for labor done on the place, or to the sick, aged, and destitute.

I would recommend that aid in materials be furnished those Indians who are willing to build houses for themselves on the place. All of which I trust will meet your approval.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CYRIL WARD,
Farmer in charge of Chehallis Reservation.

Brevet Colonel Ross,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, W. T.

No. 14.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY,
September 1, 1869.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following as my annual report as farmer in charge of Indians, parties to no treaty, stationed in the northeast part of the Territory.

This report must necessarily be brief, as the time I have had charge of these Indians only dates since the 22d day of May, 1869. The Indians embraced under the jurisdiction of the agent in charge here live over a section of country embracing about twenty-five hundred square miles, including much fine grazing land. It extends from the forty-ninth parallel north latitude to Snake River, and from thence to the one hundred and seventieth meridian.

This country is becoming rapidly settled up by whites, and is being traversed in all directions by gold-seekers, between whom and the Indians many unpleasant collisions occur. Many of these Indians possess considerable property, and some of them excel even the whites in that section in farming; but while many of them till the soil in proper season, yet four-fifths of their support is derived from the salmon fisheries.

While many of these Indians are anxious to treat with the government for the sale of their lands, provided they can be protected in an ample reservation set apart for them in their own country, others utterly refuse to convey their lands, declining all presents whatever, stating that their lands are barren and sterile, and not fit for white people, and only fitted for the Indians. In my opinion these Indians should be treated with separately, so that each tribe's title to the lands would be extinguished, and thus, as the matter proceeded, those now holding back would be induced by the example of others to come into the arrangement.

The country is large, and the common reservation should be made correspondingly so, and include their favorite fishing grounds. Old Fort Colville, near Kettle Falls, and now occupied by the Hudson's Bay Company, would, in my opinion, make an excellent place for an agency, the buildings already being erected, thus saving much expense to the government.

The Indians in this part of the Territory number near three thousand, and are the Colvilles, Spokanes, Pend d'Oreilles, and O'Kinakanes.

The business of the farmer in charge here, (at least it was the plan I laid down for my guidance,) was to travel from place to place, looking after the interests of the Indians, settling the many difficulties with whites, and an occasional murder among themselves.

Another, and quite a troublesome matter, frequently calls the attention of the agent, and that is the preventing of Indians from trading off agricultural implements given them, as soon as they are done with them for the particular season. This complaint is not general, but exists among some of the more worthless ones.

The greatest difficulty the person in charge has to contend with is the sale of liquor. This is a regular business, followed by white men, who sell the liquor to half-breed French, who again sell it to the Indians, and thus it is impossible to punish the really guilty parties.

This, as I understand it, is an Indian country, if there is any; and if it is, the commander of the post at Fort Colville should seize all liquors designed for sale in that section. If such a course was pursued, the greatest benefit to the Indians would arise therefrom.

It has also been my aim to see that the Indians had proper medical attendance; also, that the wants of the aged, blind, and infirm were supplied with enough to prevent suffering; and that agricultural implements belonging to the Indians were repaired when needed.

The goods of the Indian department have been kept in a log house belonging to the post at Fort Colville, and which was fitted up by permission of the authorities, by my predecessor, a former farmer in charge.

G. A. Paige built a stable, in which to keep hay and shelter horses belonging to the department, and this, I believe, constitutes all the buildings in which the Indian department has any claim.

Although there is nothing that an agent in charge can make any showing of, still there is ample work to keep him busy, if he is so inclined.

And, in conclusion, I would earnestly recommend that a good, faithful man be continued in charge of these Indians, and that the liberal policy of distributing annual presents to them be continued, as they expect it, and I think it is by this liberal policy that the Indians have been so easily controlled.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. W. KING,

Farmer in charge Fort Colville, W. T.

Brevet Colonel SAMUEL ROSS,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, W. T.